

Message Text

SECRET

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11
ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 PM-03 SP-02 L-01

H-01 INR-05 CIAE-00 ACDA-07 PRS-01 USIE-00 SSO-00

INRE-00 IO-03 CCO-00 EUR-08 /057 W
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O 190937Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8946
SECDEF WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI IMMEDIATE
USLO PEKING IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SEOUL 6451

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, MOPS, KS, KN, US
SUBJECT: JSA INCIDENT FOLLOW-UP - STATUS REPORT AUGUST 19

1. FOLLOWING ARE CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS AS OF 1600 LOCAL AUGUST 19.

A. TO U.S. CALL FOR MILITARY ARMISTICE COMMISSION (MAC) MEETING, NORTH KOREA REPLIED WITH PROPOSAL FOR SECURITY OFFICERS' MEETING. UNC CONTINUED TO INSIST ON MAC IN VIEW OF SERIOUSNESS OF INCIDENT. AGREEMENT REACHED ABOUT 1300 HOURS FOR SIMULTANEOUS MEETINGS OF MAC, AND SECURITY OFFICERS, MAC IN BUILDING CUSTOMARILY USED FOR THAT PURPOSE, SECURITY OFFICERS IN OPEN, ADJACENT TO BUILDING. U.S. WAS CONCERNED THAT MEETING AT SCENE OF INCIDENT, AS NK PROPOSED, WOULD DANGEROUSLY DIVIDE LIMITED U.S. SECURITY FORCE. (AGREEMENT SETS LIMIT OF 30 ENLISTED MEN AND FIVE OFFICERS, WITH ARMS, IN JSA AT ANY TIME.)

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B. UNC HAS GONE TO DEFCON III, AS ORDERED, MEANING LEAVE AND PASSES CANCELLED AND ALL STAFF SECTIONS MANNED ON 24-HOUR BASIS. UNC HAS MADE NO CHANGE IN JSA FORCES AND AS OF 1700 HOURS LOCAL TIME WE HAVE HAD NO REPORT OF CHANGE IN NK DISPOSITIONS, EITHER IN JSA OR ELSEWHERE. U.S. FORCES IN REAR AREA, IN SUPPORT OF JSA, HAVE BEEN ALERTED BUT NO MOVEMENT HAS BEEN ORDERED.

C. DURING GENERAL STILWELL'S CALL ON PRESIDENT PARK (SEE CONUSK 190700Z) PRESIDENT WAS INFORMED OF U.S. ACTIONS, INDICATED APPROVAL, STRESSED NEED FOR FURTHER MEASURES IN JSA TO EVINCE U.S. DETERMINATION. IN ACCORDANCE PARK'S SUGGESTION AT THAT TIME, ROK JCS HAS MADE AVAILABLE 50 KOREAN MILITARY PERSONNEL TRAINED IN MARTIAL ARTS FOR POSSIBLE USE AS SUPPLEMENT SECURITY FORCE, IF DECISION MADE TO PROCEED WITH TREE OPERATION. RECOMMENDATION ON THIS SUBJECT IN PREPARATION.

D. PLANE-SIDE CEREMONY SCHEDULE AUGUST 20, 1200 HOURS LOCAL, AT KIMPO, FOR DEPARTURE OF REMAINS OF DECEASED. CINCUNC PLANS TO SPEAK.

E. UK EMBASSY REPORTS AFT STORY THAT THREE NK KILLED IN INCIDENT. WE HAVE NO CONFIRMATION OF THIS BUT WHILE PHOTOS AND EYEWITNESS ACCOUNTS INDICATE NO NKS INJURED, WE HAVE REFRAINED FROM ISSUING ANY DENIAL SINCE WE CANNOT RULE OUT POSSIBILITY OTHER SIDE MAY ALSO HAVE SUFFERED SOME INJURIES.

F. THERE HAS BEEN NO ANNOUNCEMENT OF ALERT ACTIONS BY UNC. PRESS GUIDANCE PREPARED CONFIRMING INCREASED STATE OF READINESS BUT WE DO NOT KNOW OF ANY USE OF THIS GUIDANCE. HOWEVER, UNC HAS BROADCAST ON AFKN CALL FOR PERSONNEL ON LEAVE OR PASS TO REJOIN UNITS AND THIS COULD HAVE BEEN BASIS FOR INTELLIGENT GUESS.

2. STANDING BY TO REPORT RESULT OF MAC MEETING AS INFORMATION RECEIVED.
STERN

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